

## C-E.18 Equine Emergency Care (A)

**Credits:** 10 (100 hours)

**Provider:** Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

### RCVS Content Covered

Click [here](#) to view the module content as outlined by the RCVS.

### Aim of the Module

This module aims to develop an in-depth knowledge of the underlying theory and the ability to practically apply this knowledge to the diagnosis and management of common equine emergencies involving the musculoskeletal, nervous, respiratory, and ocular systems, and the management of acute wounds and trauma.

### Learning Outcomes

At the end of the module, candidates should be able to:

1. critically evaluate the differential diagnosis and pathophysiology, of common emergency conditions involving the musculoskeletal, nervous, and respiratory systems, ophthalmic emergencies, and acute wounds and trauma of the horse, and apply this knowledge in the diagnostic evaluation and treatment of clinical cases;
2. synthesise and apply appropriate approaches and protocols to the emergency treatment of equine patients incorporating evidence from the diagnostic database and scientific literature as well as the ability to appropriately adapt to client, animal, environmental, and practice factors;
3. critically apply clinical reasoning skills and evidence-based medicine in the diagnostic approach and emergency management of diseases relevant to the topics covered;
4. critically appraise the literature relevant to clinical cases in the topics covered, and how the literature can be used to inform practice;
5. critically reflect on the appropriate case for onward referral.

### Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 5 study units, preceded by an introductory week, each containing basic lecture and reading material supported by weekly interactions in the form of asynchronous case-based discussions, other discussions and/or synchronous journal clubs/literature critiques.

#### Study Unit 1: Lamé horse

- Assessment of acute lameness
- Fractures
- Synovial sepsis
- Laminitis
- Acute muscular disease
- Miscellaneous conditions

## **Study Unit 2: Recumbent Horse and Acute neurological disease**

- The trapped horse
- Collapse
- Acute neurological disease
- Casualty Management including at public events

## **Study Unit 3: Dyspnoeic Horse**

- Approach to respiratory emergencies
- Upper respiratory tract emergencies
- Lower respiratory tract emergencies

## **Study Unit 4: Wounds and Trauma**

- Wound assessment and management
- Common traumatic injuries

## **Study Unit 5: Ocular trauma and the painful eye**

- The painful eye
- Ocular trauma

## **Assessment Strategy**

- **2 x 1500-word reflective case reports (60%)**  
On a topic related to the relevant study units, students are required to reflect on their own practice, using evidence-based veterinary medicine to inform their reflection. Reflective case reports are written following the format of published case reports in the veterinary literature. The case report component of the assessment must be passed for successful completion of the module, and is non-compensatory with other assessments, however there is compensation between case reports. Case reports are also submitted to a discussion board for critique and discussion by/with peers. A proportion of marks for this assessment are also allocated to this discussion element.
- **1 x 1500-word protocol or guidelines (30%)**  
On a topic relevant to the module study units, students are required to reflect on their own practice and experience and use evidence-based medicine to inform decision making and the creation of a protocol that can be used to inform future practice. Protocols are also submitted to a discussion board for critique and discussion by/with peers. A proportion of marks for this assessment are also allocated to this discussion element.
- **1 x written journal critique (not more than 500 words) and group discussion (10%)**  
Hosted by a staff member online synchronously using MS Teams. 2-4 students critique the same paper, and then discuss their critiques and any variations with the group, and the tutor and the students then hold a discussion of all papers. These are assessed on the submitted critique as well as the discussion.
- **1 x case log – 20 cases (pass/fail)**  
The case log assessment is designed to assist the candidate in developing a solid foundation for everyday equine practice and demonstrate the necessary knowledge and skill base in the clinical setting.

Assessments are submitted sequentially with feedback being given between assessments to aid in the development of writing skills.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.